

CITY OF REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION

MINUTES — May 25, 2005 Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Gary Smith, Julie Barnfather, Glenn Eades, Peter McDonald, Vice Chair Ken Bechmann (arrived at 7:05), Sue Chenault (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

ABSENT: Youth advocate Morgan Hargraves

CITY STAFF: Tim Cox, Manager of Parks Planning; Teresa Kluver, Park Operations Supervisor; Linda Gorremans, Parks Planning; Pam Maybee, Recording Secretary

AUDIENCE: Jeff Churchill, Cathy Eufemio, Tim Oberholzer

Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gary Smith called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Trails Commission (RTC) at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center (ORSCC).

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of April 27, 2005 RTC minutes as submitted by:
Commissioner Barnfather

Second by: Commissioner Eades

Motion carried: Unanimous 4-0

III. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

IV. ITEMS OF INTEREST/HANDOUTS

A. RTC Member Roster

Staff will update the member rosters with the correct email addresses for Commissioners Barnfather (rocknb.ranch@comcast.net) and Chenault (sue.chenault@verizon.net).

B. East Lake Sammamish Trail Newspaper Articles

Informational

C. BNSF Railroad Newspaper Articles

Gorremans reported that Mayor Ives met with the attorney from Seattle to discuss the Redmond spur and acquisition of the BNSF rail from Renton to Snohomish.

D. Town Center Trail Article

Informational

E. Pedestrian-Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) May Agenda

Eades reported the PBAC agreed to not hold a joint meeting with RTC until the 10-trail selections clarify. He added comment to the handout:

- #3: Bellevue's West Lake Sammamish bike lanes are not designed to basic standards (Bellevue rejected Redmond's design recommendation).
- #4: Bike racks will be provided at the new City Hall.
- #5: PBAC came up with 20 initial community links.
- #6: Major connecting link of the Leary Way bike path is moving along well.

F. Arts in the Parks Brochure

Informational

G. Grass Lawn to Bridle Crest Trail Directions

McDonald handed out his map and list of directions for the trail route from Grass Lawn to Bridle Crest Trail. Gorremans noted the route is actually in Bellevue; they would be doing the maintenance on it. **Cox will**

contact Dave Alm for a list of neighborhood pedestrian shortcuts maintained by Public Works.

V. DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

A. Watershed Williams Pipeline

Teresa Kluver, Park Operations Supervisor, covered these points regarding the construction of the pipeline, also noting that some amendments had been made to the handout:

- Trail closures will occur; however, specifics are unknown at this time; there will be a large timeline window.
- Entire Watershed pipeline corridor will be impacted.
- Clearing will be wider than easement.
- City is currently negotiating temporary work spaces.
- Temporary work spaces will be large, logged, and re-vegetated with small, improved (non-invasive) plant material.
- Timeline of the trail closure is unknown; east side will most likely be closed.
- Construction dates: March through October 2006 for entire project; 60 days in the Watershed.
- Williams is required to post signage.
- Monetary compensation is being discussed for timber and for the use of Redmond's property.
- 300-plus people on the entire project; 40-foot pipe sections requiring heavy equipment.
- Hundreds of trees will come out that are outside of the easement area.
- City will endeavor to minimize the number of big trees to be cut, as well as reducing the temporary work spaces.
- Construction cannot go outside the easement and temporary work zone.
- Safety of trail users is the City's number one priority during construction.
- Evaluations would be done as work progresses.
- Could open other users to Siler's trail; Trillium will stay open.
- Williams must get approval from City about signage and trail closure; but City must accommodate access to their easement.

Cox reported the City would be compensated for board feet of the several 100 trees that would be removed outside of the easement area. An extensive restoration plan would be in place to replace trees. Kluver

noted there is an aerial map of the staging areas and construction sites. Williams will build a staging road for the logging trucks.

B. Neighborhood Connections

Gorremans handed out a two-sided document (replaced handout in packet) of neighborhood trail connectors, showing PBAC's connections in blue print.

City Council would like to see ten new connections per year. RTC will select their top 10 priority trail connections. Gorremans advised Commissioners to identify connections that have dollars attached, and that will occur in the near future. Trails that are already planned during a development do not need to be selected.

The following are six (out of the 10) that RTC advocated as future plans in the next 12 months:

- Willows/Rose Hill (asking for a "study" first, not construction):
 - Number 2: connect PSE trail west to 132nd
 - Number 3: PSE trail connection south to Willows Creek Park
- Education Hill:
 - Number 2: trail from NE 116th north to 124th
 - Number 3: trail along 172nd from 116th north to 124th
 - Number 4: Valley View trail
- Grass Lawn:
 - Number 2: Bridle Crest Trail improvements (additional paved trail between SR520 and 148th)

Commissioners will continue prioritizing their choices next month.

C. Trail Project Reports

1. Evans Creek Trail Phase I, Stage 2

Gorremans reported the following:

- Construction has begun of elevated structure (bid awarded to NW Road Construction).
- Corridor has been laid with plywood almost to the railroad grade.
- Steel manufacturing time has been moved to July.
- Moving forward with structure supports.
- Possibly could use concrete instead of asphalt; analyzing materials, especially considering maintenance.

2. Trail at Bear Creek Park

Gorremans reported the following:

- Delineated the trail placement out of the floodway.
- All permitting has begun.
- Currently in the design phase; 60% design drawings will be ready in one month.
- Construction to start in late fall (or spring).

3. Missing Link: Farrel-McWhirter – Watershed (King County)

Gorremans reported she has not heard back from King County on this issue. PSE has sold a portion of the corridor to an out-of-state entity.

4. PSE – Rose Hill and Grass Lawn

Gorremans is researching the north/south corridor to find recorded easements. She has located some recorded easements in the northwest corner segment. She is continuing to investigate and will talk with other jurisdictions (Bellevue and Kirkland) regarding an opportunity for a trail there.

D. Wayfinding

Jeff Churchill, an intern with the City, reviewed the handout, *Wayfinding for Downtown Redmond*. Wayfinding originated as a Transportation Management project to encourage alternative forms of transportation with the City; now, it is part of the TMP 3-year priority action plan.

Role of RTC as it relates to the study:

- Provide feedback on the concept of wayfinding as it relates to trails in downtown.
- Provide feedback on the specific proposal as it relates to trails.
- Be a source of ideas.

Additional information:

- Three tiers in the wayfinding system: directional, information, and gateway, which can be placed on trails.
- The map shows potential locations where wayfinding signage could happen.
- A ped/bike accommodation (bike rack) is designed within the infrastructure.
- In the design phase, there will be some designation to inform people that this is where they can find information.

- Currently, the program is in the Comp Planning Division through the design phase; most likely will be a joint effort between Parks and Public Works.
- Arts Commission would also be involved due to visual effects required.
- What is designed for downtown would serve as a template for expanding into other areas of the City, e.g., parks, with room for flexibility.

Barnfather noted a directional sign is needed to inform the public to take 90th Street to get to the Sammamish River Trail. Chenault requested staff replace the faded, non-readable kiosk information at Leary Park Clock Tower. ***Cox will ask Park Operations to provide replacement materials, including the new Redmond/Woodinville trails map.***

Eades reported that PBAC was anxious to see the wayfinding done, and that the signs could be replicated.

Gorremans noted the map did not show proposed trails. Churchill asked staff for information to accommodate. ***Gorremans will provide RTC comments and information for the wayfaring map/project.*** Barnfather noted the wayfinding project could help connect neighborhoods.

E. National Trails Day – June 4

Gorremans reported the following details for the NTD event:

- The event begins at 9:45 a.m. at the connection to Perrigo from the new Evans trail.
- Mayor Ives will be at the National Trails Day event and ribbon cutting for the new trail at 9:30 a.m.
- Gorremans will email a bulleted welcome speech outline to Smith.
- Others who will speak: Danny Hopkins, Parks and Recreation Director; Washington Wildlife Coalition representative; Mayor Ives.
- REI will bring their own canopy, along with free items; QFC and Starbucks will donate water and coffee, respectively.
- First half, ceremonial; second half, stroll along the trail.
- Table provided with literature (handouts), including the trails master plan.
- Gorremans will bring the large map of the BECT entire connection.

Smith and McDonald will arrive early, staying for speeches and ceremony; Eades will attend from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Bechmann, Barnfather, and Chenault may attend.

- Commissioners will engage in conversations with public as well as do recruiting for RTC position; ***staff will provide a clipboard for sign-ups slots and applications for membership.***
- Barnfather requested RTC name badges; ***staff will provide badges for Commissioners.***
- ***Commissioners will bring business cards to pass out.***

F. RTC Position Vacancy

Cox reported no response was received from the two advertisements for the RTC position. Chenault noted the *Journal American* incorrectly stated a Commissioner must be a Redmond resident. ***Cox will investigate and correct.***

Cox reported there are two to three applications on file for a youth advocate position, which could be used for both Park Board and RTC. These were recruited by the current Park Board advocates. Eades advocated eliminating the advocate position due to inconsistent attendance.

G. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair

Election discussion:

Bechmann stated he would not run again for Vice Chair; however, he will stay on the Commission until his term is up. Smith stated he would be willing to continue as chairperson.

Vice Chair nominations:

- Bechmann nominated McDonald for vice chair.
- McDonald nominated Barnfather for vice chair.

Vice Chair hand vote:

- McDonald: 3-0
- Barnfather: 3-0
- Coin toss to break the tie: Barnfather won the coin toss

Chair nominations:

- Barnfather nominated Smith for chair.
- No other nominations

Chair hand vote:

- Smith: 5-0 unanimous

New RTC Officers: Smith, Chair; Barnfather, Vice Chair

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Bechmann at 9:25 p.m. (Chair Smith left at 9:00 p.m.).

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Pam Maybee

<p>Audiotapes of regular Trails Commission meetings are available at the Parks and Recreation Office at (425) 556-2311.</p>
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**THE NEXT REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION MEETING:
Wednesday, June 29, 2005
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center
7:00 p.m.**